

of commercial advantage or private financial gain shall be punished as provided in section 2319 of title 18.

(b) **FORFEITURE AND DESTRUCTION.**—When any person is convicted of any violation of subsection (a), the court in its judgment of conviction shall, in addition to the penalty therein prescribed, order the forfeiture and destruction or other disposition of all infringing copies or phonorecords and all implements, devices, or equipment used in the manufacture of such infringing copies or phonorecords.

(c) **FRAUDULENT COPYRIGHT NOTICE.**—Any person who, with fraudulent intent, places on any article a notice of copyright or words of the same purport that such person knows to be false, or who, with fraudulent intent, publicly distributes or imports for public distribution any article bearing such notice or words that such person knows to be false, shall be fined not more than \$2,500.

(d) **FRAUDULENT REMOVAL OF COPYRIGHT NOTICE.**—Any person who, with fraudulent intent, removes or alters any notice of copyright appearing on a copy of a copyrighted work shall be fined not more than \$2,500.

(e) **FALSE REPRESENTATION.**—Any person who knowingly makes a false representation of a material fact in the application for copyright registration provided for by section 409, or in any written statement filed in connection with the application, shall be fined not more than \$2,500.

(f) **RIGHTS OF ATTRIBUTION AND INTEGRITY.**—Nothing in this section applies to infringement of the rights conferred by section 106A(a).

(Pub. L. 94-553, title I, §101, Oct. 19, 1976, 90 Stat. 2586; Pub. L. 97-180, §5, May 24, 1982, 96 Stat. 93; Pub. L. 101-650, title VI, §606(b), Dec. 1, 1990, 104 Stat. 5131.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

HOUSE REPORT NO. 94-1476

Four types of criminal offenses actionable under the bill are listed in section 506: willful infringement for profit, fraudulent use of a copyright notice, fraudulent removal of notice, and false representation in connection with a copyright application. The maximum fine on conviction has been increased to \$10,000 and, in conformity with the general pattern of the Criminal Code (18 U.S.C.), no minimum fines have been provided. In addition to or instead of a fine, conviction for criminal infringement under section 506(a) can carry with it a sentence of imprisonment of up to one year. Section 506(b) deals with seizure, forfeiture, and destruction of material involved in cases of criminal infringement.

Section 506(a) contains a special provision applying to any person who infringes willfully and for purposes of commercial advantage the copyright in a sound recording or a motion picture. For the first such offense a person shall be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. For any subsequent offense a person shall be fined not more than \$50,000 or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101-650 added subsec. (f).

1982—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-180 substituted “shall be punished as provided in section 2319 of title 18” for “shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both: *Provided, however,* That any person who infringes willfully and for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain the copyright in a sound recording afforded by

subsections (1), (2), or (3) of section 106 or the copyright in a motion picture afforded by subsections (1), (3), or (4) of section 106 shall be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, for the first such offense and shall be fined not more than \$50,000 or imprisoned for not more than two years, or both, for any subsequent offense”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-650 effective 6 months after Dec. 1, 1990, see section 610 of Pub. L. 101-650, set out as an Effective Date note under section 106A of this title.

CROSS REFERENCES

Acts of infringement subject to this section—

Making and distributing phonorecords, see section 115 of this title.

Secondary transmission of primary transmission, see section 111 of this title.

Costs or prosecution taxable in non-capital proceedings, see section 1918 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

Trafficking in counterfeit labels for phonorecords and copies of motion pictures or other audiovisual works, see section 2318 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

Works consisting of sounds, images, or both, the first fixation of which is made simultaneously with its transmission, as subject to this section, although not yet registered, see section 411 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 101, 109, 111, 115, 119, 411, 501, 509 of this title; title 18 section 2319; title 19 section 1595a.

§ 507. Limitations on actions

(a) **CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.**—No criminal proceeding shall be maintained under the provisions of this title unless it is commenced within three years after the cause of action arose.

(b) **CIVIL ACTIONS.**—No civil action shall be maintained under the provisions of this title unless it is commenced within three years after the claim accrued.

(Pub. L. 94-553, title I, §101, Oct. 19, 1976, 90 Stat. 2586.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

HOUSE REPORT NO. 94-1476

Section 507, which is substantially identical with section 115 of the present law [section 115 of former title 17], establishes a three-year statute of limitations for both criminal proceedings and civil actions. The language of this section, which was adopted by the act of September 7, 1957 (71 Stat. 633) [Pub. L. 85-313, §1, Sept. 7, 1957, 71 Stat. 633], represents a reconciliation of views, and has therefore been left unaltered.

CROSS REFERENCES

Limitation on prosecution, trial, or punishment of non-capital offenses generally, see section 3282 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

§ 508. Notification of filing and determination of actions

(a) Within one month after the filing of any action under this title, the clerks of the courts of the United States shall send written notification to the Register of Copyrights setting forth, as far as is shown by the papers filed in the court, the names and addresses of the parties and the title, author, and registration number of